

## INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES, AUSTRALIA, AUGUST 1984

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PHONE INQUIRIES  
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for more information about these statistics—contact Mr Michael Koukoulas on Canberra (062) 52 6561 or any of our State offices.

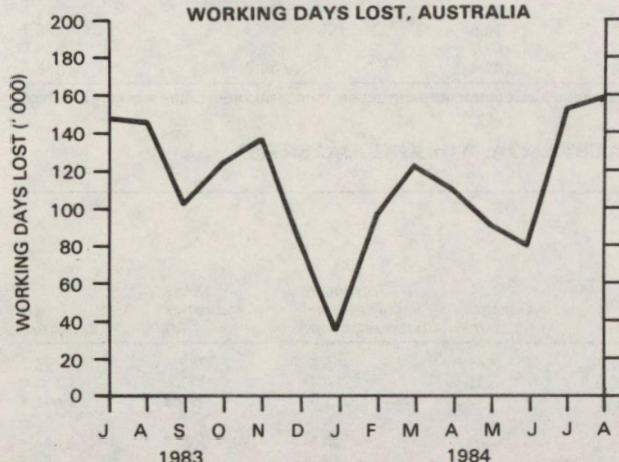
other inquiries including copies of publications—contact Information Services on Canberra (062) 52 6627 or in any of our State offices.

MAIL INQUIRIES

write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616 or any of our State offices.

### MAIN FEATURES

#### WORKING DAYS LOST, AUSTRALIA



158,000 working days were lost in August 1984. In the 12 months ended August 1984 1,297,600 working days were lost compared with 1,683,200 and 3,696,100 working days lost in the 12 months ended August 1983 and August 1982 respectively.

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Introduction

From January 1984 details of estimated loss in wages have been suspended. For further information see the January 1984 issue of this publication.

#### Coverage

2. The statistics relate only to disputes involving stoppages of work of ten man-days or more at the establishments where the stoppages occurred.

3. The figures of working days lost relate to the losses due to industrial disputes (as defined in paragraph 5) and not to aggregate losses for the economy as a whole. Details shown in this publication refer to all disputes in progress during the reference period indicated.

4. The statistics of industrial disputes are compiled mainly from data obtained from employers (both private and government) and trade unions concerning individual disputes and from reports of government authorities. Particulars of some stoppages (for example, those involving a large number of establishments) may have been estimated and the statistics therefore should be regarded as giving only a broad measure of the extent of industrial disputes (as defined).

#### Definitions

5. For these statistics an industrial dispute is defined as a withdrawal from work by a group of employees or a refusal by an employer or a number of employers to permit some or all of

their employees to work, each withdrawal or refusal being made in order to enforce a demand, to resist a demand, or to express a grievance.

6. *Workers involved* include workers directly and indirectly involved in disputes. Workers indirectly involved are those thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred, but who are not themselves parties to the dispute.

7. Differences between monthly and annual totals of workers involved can occur due to temporary cessations of stoppages that resume in subsequent months. Workers re-involved in this type of dispute are included in the monthly totals.

8. *Working days lost* refer to man-days lost by workers directly and indirectly involved in the dispute and figures are generally as reported by parties to the dispute. For some disputes working days lost are estimated on the basis of the number of workers involved and the duration of the dispute.

9. *Working days lost per 1,000 employees* have been compiled from those lost by workers directly and indirectly involved in disputes involving stoppages of work of ten man-days or more in the establishments where the stoppages occurred. Working days lost in agriculture, etc. and in private households employing staff have been excluded from tables 4 and 5 but included in tables 1 to 3.

10. The estimates of employees are obtained from the Labour Force survey.

#### Other ABS publications

11. Users may also wish to refer to the following publications:

*Labour Statistics, Australia, 1982* (6101.0)

*Industrial Disputes, Australia* (6322.0)—quarterly and annual

*The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0)—monthly

12. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Publications Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Publications Advice are available from any ABS office.

#### Symbols and other usages

- nil or rounded to zero
- r revised

13. Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

R.J. CAMERON  
Australian Statistician



TABLE 1. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : AUSTRALIA

Period	Number of disputes		Workers involved ('000)		Working days lost ('000)
	Commenced in period	Total(a)	Newly involved(b)	Total(a)	
1981	2,887	2,915	1,229.1	1,251.8	4,192.2
1982	2,045	2,060	691.3	722.9	2,158.0
1983	1,779	1,787	453.0	470.5	1,641.4
Twelve months ended—					
August 1982	2,441	2,502	1,142.9	1,203.1	3,696.1
August 1983	1,792	1,821	471.7	489.9	1,683.2
August 1984	1,839	1,866	439.8	452.0	1,297.6
1983—					
September	146	173	27.0	39.2	103.3
October	180	208	59.5	70.2	124.3
November	171	192	37.3	46.1	136.9
December	88	102	24.1	33.1	83.3
1984—					
January	82	89	14.2	23.4	37.4
February	156	167	23.9	25.3	97.6
March	214	233	48.0	51.2	121.0
April	112	133	21.4	27.9	110.2
May	163	182	29.2	35.1	91.6
June	143	164	36.6	39.3	80.1
July	r192	r207	r69.2	r71.5	r153.9
August	192	227	49.4	54.7	158.0

(a) Refers to all disputes in progress during the period. (b) Comprises workers involved in disputes which commenced during the month and additional workers involved in disputes which continued from the previous month.

TABLE 2. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : INDUSTRIES, AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST ('000)

Period	Manufacturing							
	Mining		Metal products, machinery and equipment	Other	Construction	Transport and storage; Communication	Other industries (a)	All industries
	Coal	Other						
1981	318.3	307.4	1,221.6	654.1	441.9	465.5	783.3	4,192.2
1982	525.8	157.1	241.8	333.0	231.1	296.2	373.1	2,158.0
1983	122.8	194.7	157.6	120.7	337.2	213.6	494.8	1,641.4
Twelve months ended—								
August 1982	638.2	209.8	785.7	608.8	403.3	390.9	659.5	3,696.1
August 1983	130.6	155.3	217.6	232.1	261.0	170.7	516.0	1,683.2
August 1984	112.9	239.2	108.9	207.4	186.9	149.0	293.3	1,297.6
1983—								
September	9.3	50.2	8.5	11.7	12.5	3.5	7.6	103.3
October	12.3	12.2	r10.4	7.3	36.6	r6.9	38.4	124.3
November	17.3	13.2	13.8	8.8	60.7	3.8	19.4	136.9
December	3.1	7.0	5.5	2.4	18.4	44.4	2.5	83.3
1984—								
January	4.7	8.2	2.2	16.5	0.6	1.9	3.4	37.4
February	5.6	7.4	7.9	13.1	10.3	0.9	52.4	97.6
March	15.9	13.0	9.0	27.9	13.2	7.1	35.0	121.0
April	4.1	56.1	9.4	14.5	15.1	4.3	6.7	110.2
May	7.6	34.1	7.2	28.0	4.6	6.2	3.9	91.6
June	8.0	5.0	8.0	19.9	3.8	2.6	32.8	80.1
July	r10.0	15.2	16.1	30.4	4.0	6.3	71.9	r153.9
August	15.0	17.6	10.9	26.9	7.1	61.2	19.4	158.0

(a) ASIC divisions A, D, F, I to L.

TABLE 3. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : STATES, WORKING DAYS LOST ('000)

Period	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aust. (a)
1981	1,918.6	1,235.5	465.8	158.8	244.0	64.3	4,192.2
1982	961.6	368.0	509.8	66.6	162.4	61.5	2,158.0
1983	801.2	257.7	135.0	87.7	270.6	67.8	1,641.4
Twelve months ended—							
August 1982	1,666.2	986.1	611.5	111.9	199.6	63.8	3,696.1
August 1983	904.9	325.5	127.3	94.0	156.2	62.1	1,683.2
August 1984	532.6	196.9	205.2	31.3	225.9	73.3	1,297.6
1983—							
September	17.2	11.3	19.8	3.8	32.8	14.2	103.3
October	41.1	31.2	8.7	1.2	33.3	5.9	124.3
November	38.4	8.6	10.4	0.8	62.2	12.9	136.9
December	10.6	44.5	1.9	0.6	20.7	1.3	83.3
1984—							
January	22.4	5.0	2.5	1.4	3.4	0.7	37.4
February	64.0	5.8	14.6	3.6	6.8	2.4	97.6
March	58.3	15.3	11.6	1.8	31.9	1.8	121.0
April	54.3	14.0	16.8	1.3	8.7	14.9	110.2
May	45.1	13.2	24.5	0.5	3.0	2.4	91.6
June	24.6	7.6	41.0	0.2	3.1	1.9	80.1
July	r77.7	25.4	30.1	0.1	9.6	6.0	r153.9
August	78.9	15.0	23.5	16.1	10.4	8.8	158.0

(a) Includes the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory.



CHART 1. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : INDUSTRIES, AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST PER THOUSAND EMPLOYEES  
TWELVE MONTHS ENDED AUGUST 1983 AND 1984

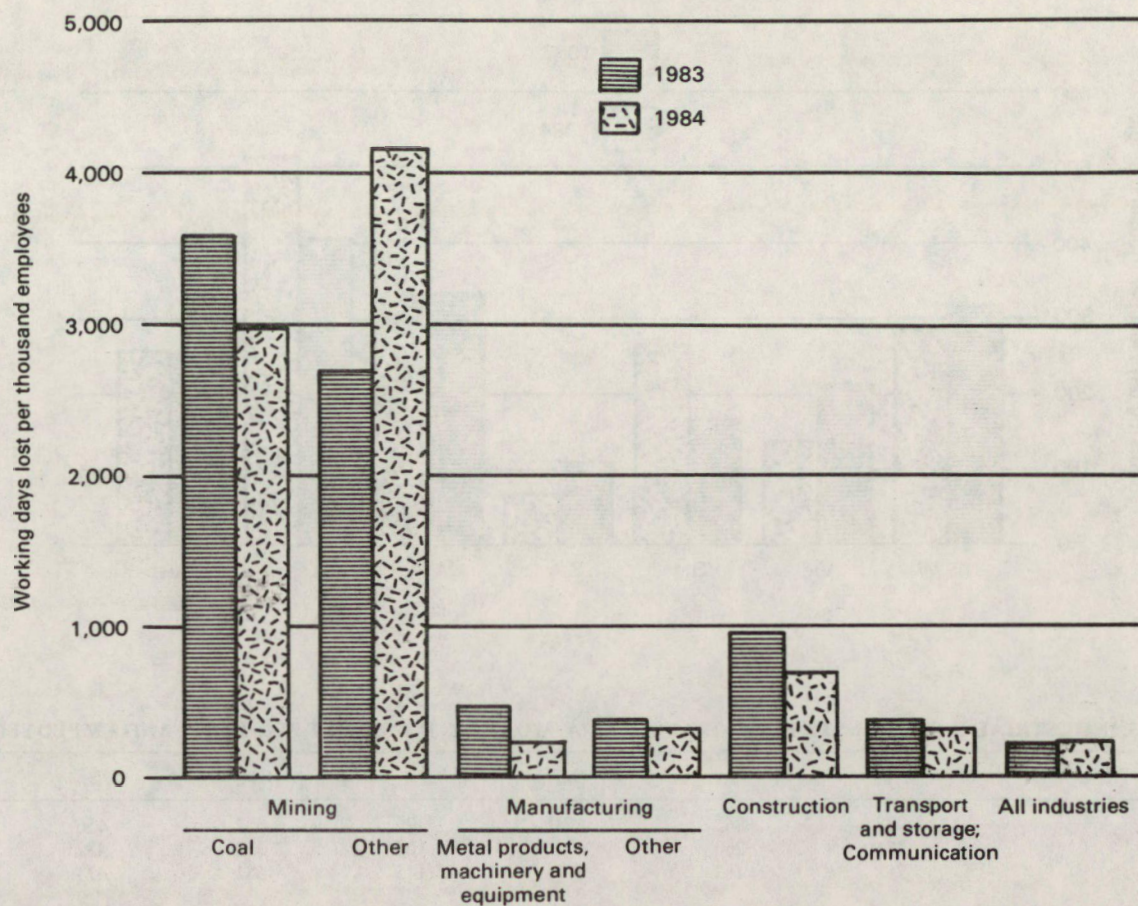


TABLE 4. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES: INDUSTRIES, AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST PER THOUSAND EMPLOYEES

Period	Manufacturing							All industries (a)
	Mining		Metal products, machinery and equipment	Other	Construc- tion	Transport and storage; Communi- cation	Other industries	
	Coal	Other						
1981	10,011	5,141	2,285	989	1,423	1,104	239	800
1982	14,483	2,691	487	512	782	670	85	396
1983	3,240	3,399	352	186	1,269	485	42	249
Twelve months ended—								
August 1983	3,578	2,700	473	360	953	388	30	246
August 1984	2,994	4,152	246	323	710	341	87	248

(a) Excluding agriculture, etc. and private households employing staff.



CHART 2. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES: STATES AND AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST PER THOUSAND EMPLOYEES, TWELVE MONTHS ENDED AUGUST 1983 AND 1984

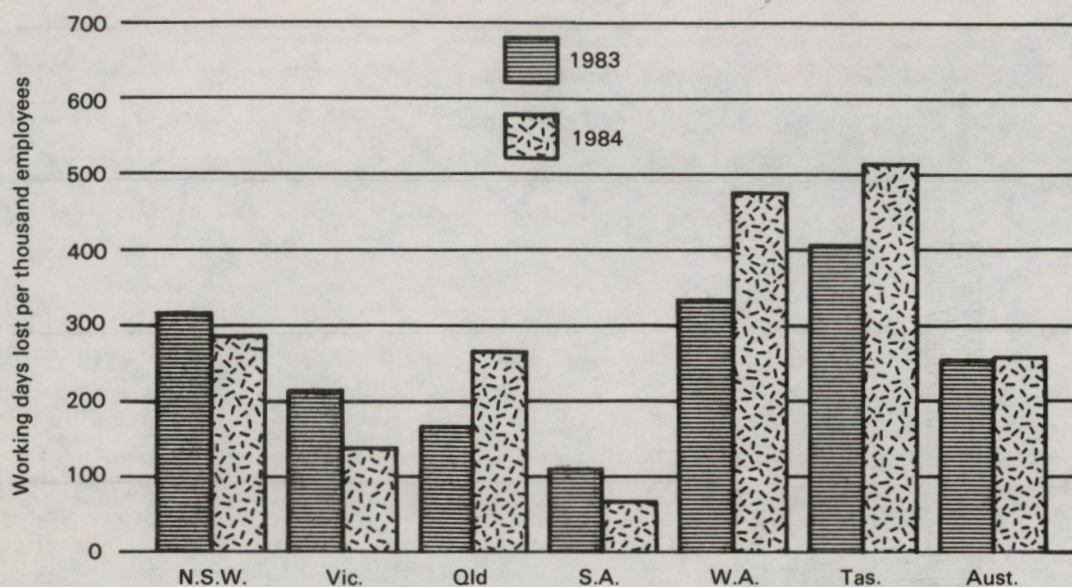


TABLE 5. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES: STATES AND AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST PER THOUSAND EMPLOYEES(a)

Period	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aust.(b)
1981	1,028	865	624	320	552	456	800
1982	481	260	672	102	352	432	396
1983	288	163	177	115	581	471	249
Twelve months ended-							
August 1983	318	211	167	110	331	408	246
August 1984	288	138	260	69	477	512	248

(a) Excludes agriculture, etc. and private households employing staff. (b) Includes the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory.